

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 368

By Shepard

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the centennial of Taylor Funeral Home and to recognize its owners for their meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those outstanding family-owned businesses within this State that are celebrating momentous occasions in their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Funeral Home is one such family-owned business that this year celebrates a historical milestone as it marks one hundred successful years of caring and compassionate service to the good people of Dickson County; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1909 by Thomas M. Taylor and D. Talmage Taylor, Taylor Funeral Home began as a furniture and undertaking business known as Taylor and Ingham and also as Taylor Brothers and Davis; and

WHEREAS, in 1916, D. Talmage Taylor joined the firm as a full-time partner and was joined in 1920 by a third brother, Marvin Taylor; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Taylor passed away in 1922, leaving his brother Talmage to manage the business; in 1924, Talmage left the furniture side of the business to invest his full attention and resources to the funeral business; and

WHEREAS, during that same year, Talmage Taylor built the existing Taylor Funeral Home Building, which is located at 214 North Main Street at the corner of Murrell and Main Streets; and

WHEREAS, during the earliest days of the funeral home, hearses were horse-drawn and the funeral home horses were shod at Ike and Nancy Shawl's stable on the corner of College

and Charlotte streets; the home's original phone number was only three digits, 212, and the average cost of a funeral was seventy-one dollars; and

WHEREAS, in 1925, Marvin Taylor passed away, leaving the ownership and direction of the funeral home in its entirety to Talmage and his wife, Stella Thompson Taylor; the couple operated the funeral home until January 1, 1948, when they sold the business to James Woodall and his wife Lilah Pearl Woodall; and

WHEREAS, Talmage and Stella Taylor's daughter, Jean Taylor Woodall, was married to James Woodall's brother, Thomas E. Woodall, who purchased a partnership in the business along with his brother James; and

WHEREAS, on January 8, 1948, Talmage Taylor passed away; just six years later, Thomas Woodall bought his brother, James Woodall's, interest in the funeral home on January 1, 1954, and assumed complete ownership of Taylor Funeral Home; and

WHEREAS, in August, 1978, the funeral home was incorporated, and five-year employee Robert T. Marvin, Jr., and his wife, Cynthia, purchased stock in the home; five years later, in May of 1983, the Marvins became the sole owners of the home; and

WHEREAS, with a rich heritage and a deeply-rooted commitment to Dickson County, Taylor Funeral Home remains a locally-owned and family-operated funeral service facility; though it has adapted with the community to meet current needs, the home has maintained its historic value and its impeccable standards of community service; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Funeral Home is now serving the fourth generation of many of the families aided by the original business in 1909, and the staff takes great pride in this history of astute service to the people of Dickson County; and

WHEREAS, during the past 100 years, the various owners of Taylor Funeral Home have been active community leaders, dedicating themselves to public service and charitable organizations; and

WHEREAS, Talmage Taylor served on the Dickson County School Board; Tom Woodall served as Alderman for the City of Dickson, is a County Commissioner, and was a long time volunteer for the American Cancer Society; and Tommy Marvin has been a devout member of the Rotary Club, the State Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers, the Board of

Developmental Services of Dickson County, and the Board of Directors of the Bank of Dickson;
and

WHEREAS, Taylor Funeral Home is a testament to the time-honored values of family, tradition, and service; and

WHEREAS, for 100 years, the business has served as a model of sterling service; this standard was set in 1909 by the Taylor brothers and continues to be an example to other businesses of a small town establishment that has adapted to fit the modern world while maintaining their historic professionalism; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Taylor Funeral Home on the occasion of its 100th anniversary, recognizing and celebrating the contributions of Taylor Funeral Home and its various owners, both economically and philanthropically, to the people of Dickson County and this great State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.